

RECEIVED FEB 1 0 2003 ECH CENTER 1600/290

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Atty. Docket: WALLACH=21 In re Application of: Conf. No.: 8997 David WALLACH et al Art Unit: 1635 Appln. No.: 09/155,676 Examiner: J. Epps Filed: January 4, 1999 Washington, D.C. For: MODULATORS OF TNF RECEPTOR) February 5, 2003 ASSOCIATED FACTOR (TRAF), THEIR PREPARATION AND USE **AMENDMENT**

Honorable Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action of September 5, 2002, petition and payment for a two month extension of time being attached hereto, please amend as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please replace claims 49 and 55 with new amended claims 49 and 55 as follows below. A marked up version of the amended claims to show the changes made is attached hereto.

49 (Thrice-amended). A method for identifying and producing a molecule capable of directly or indirectly either inhibiting or increasing the cellular activity which is changed or mediated by a polypeptide according to claim 69 comprising:

- a) screening for a molecule capable of directly or indirectly either inhibiting or increasing the cellular activity which is changed or mediated by a polypeptide according to claim 69;
 - b) identifying and characterizing said molecule; and

SUN'